



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Tuesday
7 November 1989**

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De Klerk Urges 'Free,' 'Fair' Namibian Elections

MB0611174589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1749 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] Pretoria Nov 6 SAPA—South Africa would accept the results of a free and fair election in Namibia and stood ready to play a constructive role in its future, State President Mr F.W. de Klerk said in a message on Monday night on the eve of the elections in the territory.

Speaking in Pretoria, he said it was in the interest of "the whole southern African region that all and everybody, in the spirit of cooperation and neighbourliness, should reach out to each other".

"The states of southern Africa need one another and South Africa stands ready to play a constructive role in this regard—both in a regional context as well as in its individual relationship to neighbouring states. This includes a new, independent Namibia."

He said that since 1947 the territory had been in the midst of international disputes and even armed conflict. Through all these years the Republic of South Africa had adhered to its point of view, namely that the people of Namibia should themselves decide their future "without force or intimidation, from any source whatsoever".

"Now this time has come. The opportunity now presents itself, and now strife and bitterness, and the mistrust and misunderstandings of the past, must be put behind us.

"The international dispute concerning SWA [South-West Africa]/Namibia must now finally be ended."

Mr de Klerk said a great responsibility rested on the various parties and on all inhabitants to ensure that everyone took advantage of the opportunity to cast his vote freely and without fear of intimidation of any kind.

An election can easily lead to emotional reactions and accompanying disrupting behaviour. To prevent this, it is necessary that calm and a spirit of tolerance and underlying respect for one another should prevail.

"The electoral process makes it possible for every voter to cast his vote in secret. Proper security measures and comprehensive supporting services have been arranged [quotation marks as received]. "I therefore appeal to every member of the electorate: Do not let this valuable opportunity slip by. Cast your vote in the interest of peace and prosperity of your country, and in so doing lay a firm foundation for democracy.

"I wish you all strength and God's blessings on the road to this future," Mr de Klerk said.

RSA TV Previews Namibian Elections

MB0511210689 Johannesburg Television Service
in English 1820 GMT 5 Nov 89

[Report by Andre le Roux from the "Network" program on interviews with UN Special Representative Martti

Ahtisaari, Administrator General Louis Pienaar, Angolan Foreign Minister Pedro de Castro van Dunem, and South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha, and including reports by Carel Roos from Kavango and Kieran Marec from Ovambo—date and place not given]

[Text] On Tuesday [7 November], the people of this country will decide to what extent the ideal of peace is attainable. The election, lasting until the last voter has cast his vote on Saturday evening, will be the most intensively monitored electoral process ever held. But, it is up to one man, the UN special representative, to decide on the legitimacy of the elections. He sets out his criteria:

[Begin recording] [UN Special Representative Martti Ahtisaari] First of all, I have to decide whether the electioneering period has been carried out in a spirit of freeness and fairness. Then I have to see whether the voting has been carried out in the fashion that it has given chance to all those who have wanted to vote and the whole procedure has been carried out in a fashion that is acceptable in that concept.

Then we have to see that counting of the votes is carrying out properly, that there is no fraud predicted in the process, and counting takes place properly. After that, I am in a position to say: Yes, this has been free and fair; there has been no intimidation throughout the process.

I don't think you can...[changes thought] If you are asking me if I have some sort of scientific formula or mathematical formula how one decides, that we don't have. I expect to consult my colleagues in the field and get the report from every regional supervisor before I make my own judgment.

[Reporter Colleen Hendriks] Precisely when will you announce whether the elections have been free and fair?

[Ahtisaari] I would hope that it could be done before the election results are announced. I think it is a bit unclear how many days the actual counting will take. It may be faster in some areas of the country, and the information may come out earlier in those places. But, then, in the most populated areas, it will mostly take slightly more. Then, we also have to count also, centrally, the tendered ballots. When all that information is there, then one can make the assessment of the whole process. I hope that we can come out with the verification before the actual results are publicized, but they will come very close together. [end recording]

The administrator general, Mr Louis Pienaar, is confident that his administration is ready to deal with what it takes, especially maintaining law and order this coming week and beyond.

[Begin recording] [Pienaar] I am happy with our ability to maintain law and order with the present numbers at our disposal, and, therefore, I am not contemplating bringing in any extra policemen from anywhere. But, if

there is an untoward, or if there are exceptional circumstances, then, of course, I shall have to revise the situation and contemplate bringing in extra police.

[Hendriks] If so, would the recruiting be done locally or in South Africa?

[Pienaar] There is no possibility of recruiting police locally. I shall have to make use of police coming from South Africa, but I again want to say that would only happen in the case of the extraordinary situation. [end recording]

Last night, what can be considered to be the final high level talks on keeping the process on track took place between the South African foreign minister and his Angolan counterpart, Mr Pedro de Castro van Dunem, who gave his government's thumbs-up.

[Begin recording] [Van Dunem] We do hope very much that the process will go on very well, and I think if the situations that came about this week are really clarified that the process of elections can go very well.

[Le Roux] Can I just follow that up? Are you in sufficient control of the southern border area of Angola to say that?

[Van Dunem] Yes, we do. [end recording]

Mr Botha first had to settle the dust around the UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] messages affair. [Begin recording] [Le Roux] Minister, you stood accused of heightening tensions in the territory due to your remarks on the UNTAG messages saga. Your reaction to that?

[South African Foreign Minister Pik Botha] Yes, well, if people think that way, then I regret it. I was presented with what was termed irrefutable evidence of an imminent danger, just as was the case on 31 March this year, when I acted and reacted more or less the same. It is, of course, easy to talk with hindsight. It's a different matter to be presented with what, I repeat, was called irrefutable evidence. I thought I was acting in the best interests of the people of this country and of promoting peace and preventing the large scale killing of people.

If you've gone through that process of 1 April as I've done, then you do not want it again. But, after discussions here today with Minister of Foreign Affairs van Dunem of Angola, Mr Sam Nujoma, the administrator general, and other leaders of political parties, I believe I am returning to Pretoria with the feeling that everything will be peaceful, that it will be quiet and calm and smooth, and that fair and free elections can take place here next week. [Le Roux] Mr Botha, it was because of those messages that the Army was put on alert at Walvis Bay and at Upington. Are they going to stand down now?

[Botha] As far as I'm concerned, there's no evidence that UNTAG was responsible for the transmissions. As far as I'm concerned, the situation is under control. The administrator general has assured me that he has made contingency plans.

My impression from the various leaders that I've met and talked to is, indeed, that they accept that the elections will be peaceful.

[Le Roux] So, the Army is standing down from its alert position?

[Botha] As far as I am concerned, there is no necessity.

[Le Roux] Are you now giving the go-ahead for the process to proceed?

[Botha] Well, it's not for me to give that go-ahead. My task was to come and, to the extent that it is humanly possible, determine the atmosphere here, and particularly my meeting with Minister van Dunem of Angola, which I consider to be of major importance. The two of us agreed that both governments will do their best to see to it, or to encourage, all the parties to conduct themselves in a way which will facilitate peaceful elections.

[Le Roux] You satisfied yourself there is no threat from SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] from across the Angolan border?

[Botha] It is extremely difficult. I am dealing with charges and countercharges. I've done so for months now. People don't seem to realize that. I can give no categorical assurances of whatever nature. At the same time, I am not aware, after my talks here, of any imminent danger to the peaceful process that the people of Namibia will enter next week.

[Le Roux] Taking it for granted that the process goes on now, at the end of the process it's up to Mr Ahtisaari to certify the elections. But, you, yourself, would you pronounce on the freeness and fairness of the process?

[Botha] Not at this stage. It must first be completed. We do not know what will happen tomorrow. I can only talk of my expectations, my feelings, after having had these talks. I repeat: I feel encouraged.

I discussed with Mr Nujoma quite openly the allegations that he might still have elements, armed elements, armed troops, immediately north of the border. He assured me it wasn't true. He assured me that they only had schools with children going to school.

Now, in the absence of any firm evidence to the contrary, we have to accept that. But, this shows you the dilemma in which we find ourselves constantly. But, this evening, on my departure back to South Africa, my feeling is, yes, it's okay, it looks good, the leaders are calm. I expect a smooth, open, free, and fair election, but I can give no assurance. [end recording]

Having come to the end of the campaign, the question is: What can be expected? There is general consensus in the territory that SWAPO is well entrenched in its Ovambo support, that is, in Ovambo itself, where close to 250,000 voters are registered, with another 100,000 Ovambos registered in the rest of the country's urban areas. Although SWAPO would grudgingly have to admit that

it does not command total Ovambo support, the challenge facing the other nine parties headed by the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] is to win as much Ovambo support as possible, on the one hand, and to come as close as possible to making a clean sweep of the other population groups.

The DTA commands the support of the majority of the 22,000 Caprivian voters, and that goes for the majority of the more than 70,000 Kavango voters. The strongest anti-SWAPO support comes from the whites, whose votes total about 45,000, including just more than 9,000 votes to be polled by eligible ex-Namibians now living in South Africa. Most whites are expected to cast their votes for either the ACN [Action Christian National], the DTA, or, to a lesser extent the NPF [Namibian Patriotic Front]. The 50,000 Herero voters are expected to record anti-SWAPO votes, although there is some support for SWAPO among Hereros in some urban areas.

The Damaras, numbering about 50,000 voters, are expected to give the bulk of their support to the UDF [United Democratic Front], which incorporates the Damara Council. The all important floating vote and, more likely than not, the deciding vote will depend on the extent of the support all parties can generate among the smaller population groups, such as the Namas, the Basters, the coloreds, the Bushmen, and the Tswana. The smaller population groups represent close on 100,000 votes.

To give an indication of what's happening on the ground, colleagues Carel Roos and Kieran Maree report from Kavango and Ovambo, respectively, the two most densely populated areas in the country.

[Begin Roos recording] Fears about the security in the Kavango center mostly around speculation about the alleged presence of PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] fighters on the Angolan side of the border; while local rumors would have it that a possible PLAN buildup might hold a threat westwards of the Kavango. The rumors, nevertheless, affect the mood of voters in the areas.

In spite of this, final preparations and canvassing by 10 political parties vying for the support of the 64,000 registered voters continued up to the weekend. This work mainly consists of pep talks for party workers, who then visit kraals to explain party policy and voting procedure, as well as signing up new members.

The strongest parties in the Kavango seem to be the DTA, the NPF of Namibia, SWAPO, and the UDF. In Rundu, party supporters proudly parade their party colors, like this procession of ex-Koevoet [police counterinsurgency unit] members, who joined the DTA after their unit was demobilized last week. Election issues center around unemployment, education, health services, and the development of the northern territories. [end recording]

[Begin Maree recording] Election fever is mounting in the north. Motor convoys, flags, T-shirts, and slogans all attest to the coming election. In Ovambo alone, they'll be voting at about 130 polling stations, possibly more. Along with the election fever has come hard work for many officials. The past week has seen thousands of UN staff receiving voting training. They will join the administrator general's staff at the polls. For every five members of the administrator general's staff, there will be four UN personnel.

This group, filmed at one of four centers used to train staff, come from all corners of the earth. Thailand, in particular, is one of the countries best represented. [video shows large room with hundreds of adults seated at school desks] The setting up of polling stations will mainly be done a day or two before the election begins. The polling stations close on Saturday, and it will be some days before the outcome of the ballot is known.

Apart from the decision the voters will have to make at the polls, Mr Martti Ahtisaari will have to decide whether he is prepared to verify this election. That will mean certification that both the voting and the counting processes were free of irregularities, and that the process was free and fair. [end recording]

To summarize, the election starting on Tuesday boils down to an anti-SWAPO versus a SWAPO contest. The outcome? Well, that's unpredictable. If one has to rely on simple arithmetic alone, SWAPO, on the basis of its presumed Ovambo support, is in the best position to achieve a straight majority. The DTA is by far the strongest anti-SWAPO force, but will have to form a coalition with the smaller parties in order to achieve a working majority, if the result is close.

It is unpredictable, as there are various factors that can have unforeseen implications on the final outcome. Top of the list is the high level of illiteracy in this country, and major logistical and educational problems in getting the bulk of the people to vote.

Intimidation from all sides, including the legacy of the war, has left all parties unsure of the extent of their real support, as opposed to their presumed support due to public expressions of solidarity. There is the role of the ethnic divisions, which are far more pronounced in Namibia than in South Africa, for example.

But at the end of the day, it is not a matter of who commands a simple majority. In terms of the proclamation on the constituent assembly to be signed here in Windhoek tomorrow, a two-thirds majority is required to pass the Constitution. As things now stand no party is going to attain a two-third majority, and therefore be able to unilaterally write and pass the Constitution.

Commentary Praises Namibian Independence Process

*MB0711053089 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0500 GMT 7 Nov 89*

[Station commentary]

[Text] A remarkable mood of confidence surrounds the historic election being in South-West Africa/Namibia today. The United Nations secretary general, Dr Perez de Cuellar, has reported to the Security Council that he is satisfied that conditions exist for a free and fair election. Martti Ahtisaari has certified that all pre-poll procedures have been properly completed. On the South African side, Foreign Minister Pik Botha has indicated that he is similarly satisfied that the election will be open, free, and fair.

The unanimity is all the more striking, in the light of the turbulence that has characterized the recent history of the last African country to become independent. Few countries in a similar stage have been subjected to such intense and varied pressures, both national and international, and extending even to a mass armed incursion that threatened to derail the whole process. And few have been able to demonstrate so clearly, to even the most critical observers, a commitment to what one commentator called a clinically democratic progress to independence. The achievement is a triumph for the governments that made the diplomatic breakthrough of a regional peace settlement for Southwestern Africa a year ago. In particular, it is a tribute to those who have been most closely involved in overseeing the implementation of the settlement plan since April. Their success in keeping it on course has opened up a new dimension in regional diplomacy to resolve long-standing disputes in southern Africa.

Not the least significant achievement has been the reassessment of South Africa's role in the region. Its scrupulous adherence to the terms of the joint agreement, and its insistence that all parties should honor the commitment to a peaceful settlement, have forged new links with neighbors and helped to transform the outlook for stability in the subcontinent. In the process, South Africa has demonstrated its readiness to cooperate with governments of widely diverse ideological hues, provided only that there is a mutual desire for peaceful coexistence.

There is every reason to suppose that such a relationship would be maintained with South-West Africa/Namibia, regardless of which party should emerge to lead the territory to independence. Indeed, a cooperative relationship would be virtually a necessity for the new state, given the close integration of its economy and infrastructural services with South Africa's.

Judging by their public pronouncements, the political parties contesting this week's election are well aware of the benefits of development through cooperation in southern Africa. Whether or not they favor diplomatic relations, all acknowledge that a degree of interdependence will continue to characterize ties with South Africa.

On the other major election issue, economic development, the campaign has also produced a toning down of formerly radical standpoints. Although the emphasis varies, all parties support some form of mixed economy, with a prominent role for free enterprise.

In their vote this week for a constituent assembly, the people of South-West Africa/Namibia cross a crucial threshold to independence. Perhaps the greatest achievement of the regional settlement is its guarantee that whatever course they take will be the result of their own free, democratically expressed choice.

Comoros

Presidential Referendum Sparks Demonstrations

EA0611213689 Antananarivo Domestic Service
in Malagasy 1830 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] The Comoran people yesterday held a referendum on the reelection of President Ahmed Abdallah for a third term in office as head of the Comoran nation. Opponents reacted; houses were burned and people demonstrated. The result was that the Anjouan's governor's residence caught fire. Arrests were made, according to Comoros radio.

Mauritius

Socialists Demonstrate at U.S. Embassy 6 Nov

AB0611173489 Paris AFP in English 1705 GMT
6 Nov 89

[Text] Port Louis, Nov 6 (AFP)—A hundred youth-wingers of Mauritius's ruling Militant Socialist Movement demonstrated outside the U.S. Embassy here on Monday [6 November] to press demands for demilitarization of the Indian Ocean. Several MPs, including Chief Whip Karl Offman, who is also the party secretary-general, took part.

The demonstrators called for the return to Mauritius of the Chagos Archipelago and dismantling of the Anglo-American military base on Diego Garcia, a coral atoll in the Chagos.

The islands lie 2,300 kilometres (1,420 miles) north-east of here, and currently comprise the British Indian Ocean Territory, which was established in 1965 to meet British and American regional defence requirements.

A petition presented to Charge d'Affaires Susan Johnson said detente between the United States and the Soviet Union made the base unnecessary. Britain has undertaken to return the Chagos to Mauritius when they are no longer needed for security purposes.

With support from the Organization of African Unity and India, Mauritian Governments over the years have campaigned for the territory to be handed back at once.

The latest demonstration was sparked by an incident off Diego Garcia a week ago when a plane accidentally dropped a bomb on an American cruiser.

* NTUC Claim Police Brutality; Demand Inquiry

34190382b Port Louis LE MAURICIEN
in French 7 Sep 89 p 4

[Article by Koomara Venkatasamy: "The NTUC Demands Inquiry of Police Brutality"]

[Text] Letters were addressed to Sir Anerood Jugnauth and to Mr Kowlessur.

Through a letter addressed to the prime minister, Sir Anerood Jugnauth, and to the police superintendent, Mr Bhimsen Kowlessur, the leaders of the five union movements, all members of the National Trade Union Council [NTUC], have demanded that an investigation be opened into police brutality against union leaders last Thursday, at the time of the demonstration organized in favor of rehiring Ben Frappier, a worker dismissed by *Retreaders*.

Messrs Cyril Justine of the Federation of Civil Service Unions [FSSC]; D. Bharuth of the Federation of the Unions of Constituent Bodies [FSCC]; S. Lapipe of the United Workers Federation [FTU]; T. Ramasawmy of the Federation of Progressive Unions [FPU]; and E. Varden of the General Workers Federation [GWF] specified in their letter that the meeting of the NTUC union delegates last Thursday at the social center Mary, Queen of Peace, was to be followed by a peaceful protest march.

However, at the moment the march was supposed to start, the police, with the aid of the Special Supporting Unit, prevented it from taking place, while making filthy comments about the union leaders and brutally attacking them, which resulted in some demonstrators having to be hospitalized.

In condemning the repressive measures used by the police, the NTUC feels that last Thursday's events were "tantamount to a degrading punishment inflicted on trade unionists and goes against our fundamental rights and freedom in a sovereign democratic state."

For all these reasons, the leaders of the NTUC are in favor of the immediate opening of an investigation.

Furthermore, word has reached us that the NTUC plans to increase its consciousness-raising campaign in favor of rehiring Ben Frappier, which will culminate in a large meeting and a protest march from Rose-Hill to Port Louis.

* Talks With Cuba; Future Cooperation Discussed

34190382c Port Louis LE MAURICIEN
in French 9 Sep 89 p 12

[Article: "Toward Strengthening Cooperation in the Sugar Producing Sector"]

[Text] The strengthening of cooperation between Mauritius and Cuba, specifically in the area of sugar production technology, was noted Wednesday by the minister of agriculture, Mr Madun Dulloo, and the Cuban ambassador, Mr Luis Reyos Mas, based in Tananarive.

As a matter of fact, the two representatives considered that bilateral cooperation could become more intense at the agricultural level, with special emphasis on the sugar production sector and the optimal exploitation of by-products from sugarcane.

The island of Mauritius could benefit from the advantages connected with a transfer of technology in the sugar production sector and also with regard to cigar production.

Messrs Dulloo and Mr Mas also discussed the possibility of exchanging experts.

The Cuban ambassador has invited the minister of agriculture to carry out a mission to Cuba to see for himself the progress that has been made in the area of optimal use of the by-products of sugarcane.

Moreover, Mr Dulloo, who serves as interim foreign minister, and the Cuban ambassador reviewed the issues discussed at the summit of nonaligned nations in Belgrade. Mr Mas also met with the vice prime minister and minister of planning, Dr Beergoonauth Ghurburrun. Their discussions centered on technical aid from Cuba for study grants in the area of the by-products of sugarcane and of research in the fishing industry.

The possibility of trade agreements between our two countries was also broached in the course of this discussion.

Namibia

UDF Head Doubts Election Fairness

MB0411193489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1922 GMT 4 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 4 SAPA—The president of the Namibian United Democratic Front [UDF], Chief Justus Garoeb, on Saturday [4 November] called on Administrator-General Louis Pienaar and UN Special Representative Martti Ahtisaari to reconsider urgently the pre-independence election scheduled to start on Tuesday [7 November].

Addressing several thousand people who had come from all over the country for the UDF's final rally in Windhoek, Chief Garoeb said to hold the election now would amount to hypocrisy and fraud.

Some very important stipulations of the settlement plan had not been complied with, including the release of all political detainees and the inclusion in the constitution of the 1982 guidelines. Against this background he could not see how the election could be free and fair.

Holding the election before the remaining people allegedly held by SWAPO had been repatriated would endanger their lives, since there would be nothing to force SWAPO to release them after the election, he said.

UDF Chairman Reggie Diergaardt also expressed doubt about the election being free and fair, but said the UDF would accept the result if it was certified by the UN. He said the UDF was prepared to cooperate with other parties in the constitutional assembly, but only if they

admitted past mistakes and undertook to change their ways. He was confident the UDF would win the balance of power in the assembly.

Mr Diergaardt said the UDF was the only party to vote for, since it was not dominated by whites like the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA) or tainted by violence like SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization]. Namibia would reject a SWAPO government forced on it by the UN, he said.

Mr Diergaardt said SWAPO leader Sam Nujoma was not acceptable to Namibians because he was guilty of the mass murder of their sons and daughters. SWAPO's policy of violence had failed, he said.

Mrs Erika Beukes, of the Workers Revolutionary Party, told the crowd Resolution 435 protected the interests of capitalists and imperialists, but neglected the workers.

She urged constant vigilance and strong worker organization after independence to guard against political corruption and leaders who were being bought by international capital.

Mrs Beukes, whose youngest brother died in a SWAPO detention camp, ended her speech by calling for a minute's silence to honour those who had died in the struggle for liberation.

The UDF of Namibia is not related to the SA organisation of the same name. It was created eight months ago as an election front, draws most of its support from the former Damara Council and coloured Labour party and is regarded by most observers as the third most powerful party in the election, although it appears to be quite far behind the DTA and SWAPO in support.

Antipartheid Figures Rally Behind SWAPO

MB0511165389 Johannesburg SAPA in English
01633 GMT 5 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 5 SAPA—The independence of Namibia would be an inspiration to the people of South Africa to intensify their liberation struggle, anti-apartheid campaigner the Rev Allan Boesak said Sunday. Zimbabwe's ZIANA news agency reports from Windhoek.

Addressing a SWAPO [South-West People's Organization] election rally in the township of Khomasdal, Mr Boesak said Namibians who go to the polls for a constituent assembly on Tuesday [7 November] should rally behind SWAPO, which had fought against colonialism. The victory of the Namibian people would not be a victory for those who collaborated with South Africa.

He told the crowd they had to ensure the result of this election would not be overturned by South Africa. He urged the Namibians to reject those parties which were supported by Pretoria and denounced President F.W. de Klerk for calling for unity in South Africa while he supervised over apartheid.

He said those people who had collaborated with Pretoria in the past now came to ask for votes, pretending to champion democracy and justice. He told the rally Namibians had come to a decisive stage in the building of their nation and should ensure they voted for a party that would guarantee their freedom.

There is an incredible responsibility on the people of Namibia to show the world that South African propaganda was a thing of the past, he said. He urged the group to back SWAPO in its efforts to reconcile the diverse racial and ethnic groups in the country. Foreign guests at the meeting included academics, trade unionists and representatives of the political parties.

Tomorrow, two of South Africa's leading women anti-apartheid campaigners, Mrs Winnie Mandela and Mrs Albertina Sisulu, are expected to rally support for SWAPO before Namibians go to the polls.

Nujoma Wraps Up Campaign at Gobabis Rally

*MB0511165689 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1618 GMT 5 Nov 89*

[By Neil Lewis]

[Text] Gobabis Nov 5 SAPA—For SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] leader Sam Nujoma the organisation's rally in the eastern Namibian town of Gobabis on Sunday [5 November] was a personal and political home-coming. It was here, about 100 km from the Botswana border and in the heart of white farmland in the east, that the former exiled leader left for Botswana to set up SWAPO's military wing, the Peoples Liberation Army of Namibia.

And it was here that he has chosen to wrap up his election campaign by holding SWAPO's final rally before balloting gets underway on Tuesday next week [7 November].

Mr Nujoma's political home-coming acquired an added significance as he met a representative of the local Herero chief, Munjuku Nguvauva. The representative presented him and colleagues with a young colt, a cow and two sheep on behalf of Chief Nguvauva.

It was chief Nguvauva who, in 1966, gave the young Nujoma shelter and then safe passage to the Botswana border. Noting this, Mr Nujoma recounted the history of the region before driving home SWAPO's political message to about 2,500 people who turned up in the blue, red and green colours of the organisation. Herero elders, in their triangular headgear, sang his praises, chanted political slogans and acclaimed him as their leader.

Mr Nujoma said all credit for the development of Namibia should be given to the African majority who had toiled tirelessly for the benefit of the country. "Yet we have been exploited, our land was taken by colonialists, apartheid was introduced by the Boers and we were divided by the Boers."

Mr Nujoma also reiterated that teachers and other civil servants would not have their pensions taken away by a new SWAPO administration. "All those people, especially in the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance], have spread propaganda that we will nationalise civil servants pensions, but that is a blatant lie. The pensions are for those who have worked for them, and we will not take that away. However, we are going to start a national pensions scheme which will be for the majority of people," said the SWAPO leader.

Throughout the mass rally, about 30 white farmers watched proceedings from the perimeter of the Gobabis showground.

Nujoma Interviewed on Elections

*MB0611201989 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2010 GMT 6 Nov 89*

[By Joan Fubbs]

[Text] Windhoek Nov 6 SAPA—Namibian independence will pave the way for a radical transformation in South Africa, according to Mr Sam Nujoma. In an exclusive interview with SAPA in Windhoek today the SWAPO leader pointed out that the UN had declared apartheid a crime against humanity—"which is a lot more serious than the vestiges of colonialism and imperialism which had oppressed the people."

"We have gained our freedom and this can only promote the political struggle for a free and just society in South Africa." He added he was optimistic about the struggle in South Africa because President F.W. de Klerk had promised during the South Africa elections to eliminate apartheid and work towards the welfare of all the people in that country.

On the future of Namibia Mr Nujoma, confident of a SWAPO victory at the polls, said SWAPO wanted to work with all Namibian compatriots to draft a constitution that would be to the benefit of all the country's people.

Economically, SWAPO wanted a "just" relationship between labour and the people who supplied the capital. "We cannot kill the goose that lays the golden egg. A code of conduct for businessmen would be drawn up by SWAPO utilising the concepts of social justice, which would ensure that the investor made a fair profit, not at the expense of the worker."

Of his homecoming he said he had left furtively and came back triumphantly to assume the mantle of leading SWAPO to victory at the constitutional elections which begin on Tuesday [7 November].

"Words cannot describe my feelings as I stood on Namibian soil after 29 years of exile, first as an active combatant, and later in the political ranks. "Revolutions are the festival of the oppressed and exploited, and at no other time are the people more ready to create a new country."

"However, just as revolution inspired SWAPO in the armed struggle, so reconciliation is inspiring SWAPO in the peace programme to transform Namibia into a land where solidarity, freedom and social justice prevail," said Mr Nujoma.

He was happy to be back home to rejoin his countrymen, his friends and family. His own family is typical of many of the returning Namibians, who found the babies they had left behind had become adults in the 20 years of exile.

He said he wished to thank villagers who had risked their lives to help PLAN [People's Liberation Army of Namibia] combatants in the armed struggle. "Without their support, this armed struggle would not now have reached the final stage which begins tomorrow (Tuesday) at the ballot box. They have enabled us to swap our guns for a vote."

Mr Nujoma said it was not only the internal assistance that had helped the struggle for freedom but also the Nordic countries, in particular Sweden, which was the first to recognise SWAPO and help the organisation with aid to build hospitals, schools and agricultural centres.

About SWAPO's performance in the election, Mr Nujoma was adamant that SWAPO would write the next Constitution. He said people recognised that SWAPO had created the opportunity for them to vote in the coming election, and this would be borne out by "a massive victory" for his organisation.

"When Namibians cast their votes, they will remember their compatriots who began the fight for freedom, not yesterday, last week or 10 years ago, but about 30 years ago," said the SWAPO leader.

He agreed that SWAPO had had to embark on a confidence-building program because of what he termed smear campaigns to discredit SWAPO's capacity to govern.

Mr Nujoma said it was not critical if his organisation did not gain a two-thirds majority in the elections because it was SWAPO's publicly-stated intention and commitment to work with all Namibian compatriots to draft a Constitution that would be to the benefit of all the country's people.

On the question of how SWAPO would raise productivity in Namibia, Mr Nujoma said they would use capital constructively in a "just" relationship between labour and the people who supplied the capital.

Economic growth, he continued, did not necessarily narrow the gap between the haves and have-nots. "That is why SWAPO has developed an economic strategy, with the emphasis on the achievement of economic goals rather than reaction against the circumstances of the past.

"We are a fledgling economy and as such we need foreign investment to help us launch various projects in agriculture, industry and education. But we have told our people that success does not come without hard work," said the SWAPO leader.

The key to Namibian economic success lay in agriculture, and he added that he found it disappointing that the land seemed to have deteriorated during his absence. "Where once you found animals grazing in pastures, now the land is arid."

Mr Nujoma said irrigation would unlock the agricultural wealth of the country and that a SWAPO government would regard this as a priority and provide extensive support to the new landowners. He said that one had only to witness the transformation in Zimbabwean agriculture, using peasant farmers, to realise that their projection was not a dream.

With regard to the distribution of wealth, he said there was a real need to balance redistribution of wealth with a process of wealth generation. "We cannot kill the goose that lays the golden egg. A code of conduct for businessmen would be drawn up by SWAPO utilising the concepts of social justice, which would ensure that the investor made a fair profit not at the expense of the worker."

Mr Nujoma hit out at SWAPO adversaries who cast the organisation in the light of "Economic bandits" when all the organisation wanted was to ensure economic social justice.

Further on Nujoma Interview

MB0711083389 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0413 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Windhoek Nov 7 SAPA—Namibians go to the polls on Tuesday [7 November] to vote for a constituent assembly that will pave the way for an independent Namibia free from a colonial-type administration by South Africa. Mr Sam Nujoma, president of the South-West African People's Party [SWAPO], said on Monday [6 November] night he would be the first to vote in the elections.

Namibian independence will pave the way for a radical transformation in South Africa, said Mr Sam Nujoma in an exclusive interview with SAPA in Windhoek on Monday. [passage omitted]

On the question of Walvis Bay, Mr Nujoma said it was ridiculous that South Africa insisted on hanging on to what the UN Resolution 435 insisted was an integral part of Namibia. "The South Africans should realise that their intransigence over Walvis Bay cannot continue.

"While we intend continuing relations with the (SA) as neighbours we are not prepared to allow them to use Walvis Bay as just another means of their domination over Namibia.

"Using the UN resolution as a basis, we intend to negotiate for the ownership of Walvis Bay because, after all, South Africa is not a landlocked country. It is bounded by the Indian and Atlantic Oceans.

"So, really, all they want is to retain Walvis Bay as a tool in the strategy of the apartheid system." He said South Africa with its more than 6,000 troops and Navy was maintaining a military garrison that could pose a threat to Namibian sovereignty.

On the future of Namibia, Mr Nujoma, confident of a SWAPO victory at the polls, said SWAPO wanted to work with all Namibian compatriots to draft a Constitution that would be to the benefit of all the country's people. [passage omitted]

The key to Namibian economic success is agriculture, he said, and added that he found it disappointing that the land seemed to have deteriorated during his absence. "Where once you found animals grazing in pastures, now the land is arid."

He said South Africa had done nothing to develop agriculture in Namibia because they wanted to use the country as a dumping group for agricultural produce from South Africa.

"Namibia was a very accessible market for them (SA) particularly after so many African countries began succeeding with their own agricultural programs. Zimbabwe is just one example," said Mr Nujoma.

The president of SWAPO said one could not talk of freedom and independence unless one could feed one's own people. "That is why the development of agriculture will be our priority.

"The hard work of our people and the full economic support of a concerned government interested in social justice will make this desert bloom again." Mr Nujoma said irrigation would unlock the agriculture wealth of the country and that a SWAPO government would regard this as a priority and provide extensive support to the new landowners.

He said another major revenue earner for Namibia was fishing, but that unfortunately under the "lax administration" of the SA Government the fish and almost been depleted.

He said Japanese, French, Italian, Spanish and Soviet trawlers had been allowed by the SA Government to fish irresponsibly, so that it would now take the new Namibia three or four years to restock the fishing grounds. He said SWAPO's intention to promote fishing would be to extend Namibia's fishing ground by 200 miles and to lay down a strict quota system within the territorial waters of Namibia.

He said sea fish, prawns, crayfish would be sold for foreign currency but that the establishment of fish

farms—particularly on the Kavango River, in which 70 varieties of fish had been identified—would be used to feed Namibians.

"We have learned much from our friends in Norway on the establishment of fish farms and this will be another fresh industry we will pursue in Namibia.

He said education was equally important as was the maintenance of a healthy population, and that SWAPO's policy would concentrate on the education and training of teachers and health workers and the more efficient utilisation of existing rural structures. [passage omitted]

He said unnecessary fears had been raised about SWAPO's land reform program, which was not motivated by the need to confiscate land but by the greater utilisation of land.

For example, he said it served no purpose to turn a successful [words indistinct] of land and who had told him that in his scientific farming he was producing 50 per cent of Namibia's maize requirement. "Farmers who are feeding the nation must be encouraged and not deprived of the opportunity to do so."

Mr Nujoma hit out at SWAPO adversaries who cast the organisation in the light of "economic bandits" when all the organisation wanted was to ensure economic social justice.

Promises National Reconciliation

MB0611180589 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1735 GMT 6 Nov 89

[By Neil Lewis]

[Text] Windhoek Nov 6 SAPA—As an air of muted excitement gripped Namibia on Monday [6 November] night—the eye of the country's first independence elections—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] leader Mr Sam Nujoma held out an olive branch to the country's people, promising a vigorous policy of national reconciliation which would include "Namibian patriots" in the opposition Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA).

Under the harsh glare of television cameras at his final press briefing in the heart of the newly-developed section of Katutura Township, on the outskirts of Windhoek, a relaxed Mr Nujoma said "Namibian patriots" regardless of political affiliation would be included in his cabinet if SWAPO swept the election.

"But I must emphasise that we will include Namibian patriots. Dirk Mudge (of the DTA) can hardly be described as a Namibian patriot. When he was deputy governor, he was a supporter of the South African regime. But national reconciliation is most important."

On the question of relations with major mining corporations, Mr Nujoma said there would be no mass nationalisation.

"SWAPO believes in a mixed economy. There have been no negotiations with the multinational companies, but we have had some contact with them—and it was just contact."

He still held the view that Walvis Bay was an integral part of Namibia, having being made an enclave of South Africa through "imperialism and colonialism dating from 1879".

Mr Nujoma refused to be drawn on the question of a future Namibian Army, saying the population of the fledgling independent state was small and did not necessitate a large defence force. How it was composed was not at issue, he said.

The SWAPO leader was more forthright with regard to the media. "All these newspapers that are anti-Namibian must go. So too must be SWABC (South West African Broadcasting Corporation). We guarantee freedom of the press, but that freedom must be responsible."

Mr Nujoma—whose answers did not expand on established policy—is due to vote at 7am at the Katutura Community Centre on Tuesday morning.

In Katutura on Monday scores of South African-registered taxis stood bumper to bumper along the main road, waiting to ferry voters to remote polling booths.

Bearing SWAPO colours and flags, the taxis were brought to Namibia from South Africa over the last four days. Some 500 vehicles have been hired from various centres in South Africa.

The booths open at 7am on Tuesday, and the biggest queues are expected in Katutura and at Oshakati in the north.

The flags of various political parties atop houses in the township fluttered in a mild breeze as political organisations began their preparations for the final countdown leading to polling day.

Throughout Katutura residents wore party T-shirts, while others chanted slogans from the back of vehicles as they passed the hordes of journalists.

Hundreds of flags stuck out of the windows of packed buses while shops and other business centres also flew flags depicting support for the various groups.

Pledges To Abide by 'Fair' Results

*MB0711063789 Umista Capital Radio in English
0500 GMT 7 Nov 89*

[Report by James Lovimer on news conference with Sam Nujoma, South-West African People's Organization leader—date and place not given]

[Text] At a final news conference before the start of the voting, SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] leader Sam Nujoma has said he will abide by the results. Nujoma said if the United Nations declared the

elections free and fair he would accept the outcome no matter what. He said if SWAPO won a two-thirds majority, it would be entitled to write its own Constitution but would nevertheless consult with other parties. If other parties win more than a third, he said he was sure they were all mature enough to draw up a constitution together.

Nujoma also gave notice that Walvis Bay would be a contentious issue after the polls. He says South Africa did not have a valid claim to the area which was part of Namibia.

Appeals for 'Dignified' Voting

*MB0711072489 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0712 GMT 7 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 7 SAPA—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] President Sam Nujoma has appealed for Namibians to behave responsibly during the country's independence elections that began Tuesday [7 November] under United Nations supervision.

In a full page advertisement in the Windhoek daily, THE NAMIBIAN, Mr Nujoma reminded voters that an historic day had finally arrived, the significance of which could not be over-emphasized.

"Our generation—through our votes—has the historic responsibility of bringing the freedom and independence for which many fine sons and daughters of Namibia have paid with their lives," Mr Nujoma said.

"We owe it to ourselves and to the future generations to conduct ourselves in a dignified manner during these five vital days of voting."

The SWAPO leader appealed to Namibians to refrain from anti-social conduct.

"Let us not fall prey to drunkenness and (?disorderly) choices about our future," the advertisement said.

Nujoma, SWAPO Leaders Vote in Katutura

*MB0711060089 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0558 GMT 7 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 7 SAPA—SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] leader Sam Nujoma and other top party officials on Tuesday [7 November] opened polling at the Katutura Community Centre, just outside Windhoek, as thousands of Namibian swamped three polling stations in the township.

"Today, we are finally burying apartheid colonialism," Mr Nujoma said as he was ushered in after waiting for about 15 minutes outside the incomplete building.

Wearing a dark pin-striped, double-breasted suit, the SWAPO leader raised a clenched fist at the crowd which stretched for more than two kilometres along the perimeter of the polling station.

Asked what he felt about the armed struggle now that polling was under way, the SWAPO leader replied: "The colonialists imposed the war on us. When we used the barrel of the gun, it was to facilitate the end which was the ballot box. Of course, we wish once again to thank our friends in the international community and elsewhere who have made this day possible."

Before he entered the polling booth, the electoral officer, a Mr Botha, apologised for the delay. Polling was due to start at 7 am, but the SWAPO leadership only entered the complex at about 7.20 am.

Flanked by SWAPO secretary general Mr Andimba Toivo ja Toivo, Mr Nujoma walked into the complex, produced his registration card and identity document, was handed a ballot sheet and then proceeded to make his cross and drop his vote into the ballot box. Outside a few journalists—most of the international media was caught off guard and waited at another polling station—photographed the SWAPO contingent as Mr Nujoma beamed and smiled at the large crowd.

"I feel very happy now that I have cast my vote."

When asked by SAPA whether he felt his vote was the least secret in the territory, Mr Nujoma laughed and said the world knew who he would vote for, but "it still remains a secret as no-one saw me make my cross."

Outside the station, a queue numbering several thousands wound its way around the fence of the station, up across several hills and down into small hilly declines. The atmosphere was one of joy. As vehicles passed the queue, hundreds of clenched fists punched the air. At the station, UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] monitors and civilian police hung around gazing at the huge crowd before them.

At the Katutura Suidance Advice Centre—another polling station—thousands of people also stood along the perimeter, calmly waiting to vote.

Packed buses, open trucks and taxis brought in more voters. Cars bearing flags of various political parties hooted along the main polling stations as voters in the queues raised fists in reply.

Traffic also bustled with voters and party supporters in the nearby Khomasdal as queues once again stretched for kilometres along the routes leading to the polling stations. Party supporters could be seen in thousands with their T-shirts, flags and other party paraphernalia.

In the Windhoek city centre at 9.45am, more than 1500 black and white Namibians formed a queue from the Talstrasse Polling Booth, up Bahnhofstrasse down to the Main Street, Kaiserstrasse. Voters read newspapers, chatted to friends and ate snacks as they waited for their turn to cast a ballot.

A total of 358 polling booths—of which 157 are mobile—opened Tuesday [7 November] for the internationally-supervised national ballot, the first since the country was declared a German colony in 1890.

Windhoek publishers worked flat out late Monday to include last minute lists of all polling stations in their Tuesday editions. A spokesman for the administrator-generals office, Mr Gerhard Roux, said the delay had been caused by the addition of extra polling stations.

There had been nationwide radio broadcasts on SWABC [South-West African Broadcasting Corporation] and official teams had been advising voters in remote areas, mainly in the north, for the past 10 days.

UNTAG [UN Transition Assistance Group] deputy election-director, Mr John Lee Truman, said if there were long queues when the polls were scheduled to close at 7pm on Saturday, the possibility of extending voting by one day would be considered.

UNTAG on Monday reported the atmosphere throughout the country to be calm and peaceful—and this was borne out by voters at the polls where no antagonism was evident.

OAU Issues Statement on Elections

*MB0611103789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1020 GMT 6 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 6 SAPA—The Organization of African Unity on Monday [6 November] urged the people of Namibia to rid themselves of South African colonialism when they vote in the elections which begin on Tuesday. Zimbabwe's national news agency ZIANA reports.

"The OAU, on this significant occasion, calls on all Namibian patriots to seize this unique opportunity and come out in thousands to vote decisively in a free and democratic and peaceful manner to rid this country and its people of the agony of colonialism, degradation and servitude," the organisation said in a statement. The OAU said that, after the suffering they had endured for 104 years at the hands of Germans and "boers" and their protracted struggle for liberation, Namibians should now unite, irrespective of their differences of colour, creed or race.

It noted that thousands of Namibians had died during the struggle for liberation and that some others had been misled by South Africa and committed grave crimes against their country and people.

"Namibians were robbed of their fertile and ancestral lands by the colonial, illegal occupiers and their agents. The OAU believes that this is the change for the Namibian people to redress the wrongs of the past," the statement said.

South Africa's MDM Urges Support for SWAPO*MB0611134089 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1327 GMT 6 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 6 SAPA—A victory for SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] in the Namibian elections would be a victory for the people of South Africa, the Namibian Solidarity Committee of the Mass Democratic Movement [MDM] of South Africa said in Windhoek on Monday [6 November].

"The frontiers of apartheid retreat from the Caprivi to the Orange River in SWAPO's march to freedom," the MDM said in a full-page advertisement. "our struggle is their struggle."

The MDM held high its banner in solidarity with SWAPO at a critical time of SWAPO's struggle for independence, freedom and peace in Namibia. "SWAPO, we believe, is the only organisation in Namibia which has consistently and genuinely over the years opposed South African colonial dominations and apartheid," the MDM said.

"SWAPO will be the only liberation movement to unite the people of Namibia in building democracy and non-racialism." The MDM condemned attempts of "South African Government-sponsored parties" to sabotage the liberation of Namibia by importing conservative white South African voters.

"These parties' attempts are a recipe for continued oppression and exploitation," the MDM said. "These attempts will fuel internal strife and will not bring about the reconciliation that is espoused and sought by SWAPO."

Frontline States Laud SWAPO Election Campaign*MB0611194389 Maputo Domestic Service
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 6 Nov 89*

[Text] The Frontline States have saluted the way SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] is conducting its electoral campaign in Namibia. The salute is contained in a communique issued by Frontline States' defense and security ministers after yesterday's meeting in Gaborone. However, the ministers regret the intimidation campaign carried out in Namibia by groups created by South Africa.

Elections Begin Calmly Throughout Country*MB0711103689 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1013 GMT 7 Nov 89*

[Text] Windhoek Nov 7 SAPA—Elections in Namibia began calmly on Tuesday [7 November] with much voter interest in the various areas, while no incidents of violence have been reported.

In the capital Windhoek and Katutura township, long queues were seen of voters reading newspapers, eating snacks and generally passing the time as they waited to

get inside the polling stations. Except for a handful of SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] supporters no party colours were seen among the voters of all races.

In the populous northern Namibia thousands of people were queueing at polling stations, but they were relaxed and no signs of antagonism were in evidence.

At one polling station an enterprising businessman had set up a hot-dog stand from where he also sold soft drinks in the overcast heat. SWABC [South-West African Broadcasting Corporation] radio news reports from Rundu in Kavango that a SWAPO bus had burnt out in a residential area early on Tuesday. No-one was hurt in the incident, and police are investigating the cause of the fire.

Inhabitants of eastern and western Kavango have started casting their votes with much enthusiasm. Many slept at polling stations to be the first to cast their ballots.

In Central Kavango many voters began to arrive at polling stations hours before the opening, while others travelling from outlying areas spent the night in the vicinity of the polling stations. Overcast weather conditions are prevalent in Kavango and there is a strong possibility of rain.

At Gobabis in eastern Namibia several hundred people gathered at the two polling locations before the opening at 7am. At Tsumeb in northern Namibia voters began to gather before 4am on Tuesday. Queues of up to 2km formed at the venues, where the voting rate is about one every three minutes.

In the Caprivi Strip of northeastern Namibia hundreds of people assembled at voting points.

At Okakarara in Hereroland people stood in long queues since early Tuesday, while much activity was reported at mobile polling stations in the region.

Polling stations in Damaraland have been busy since early this morning but at Otjiwarongo voting was delayed for half an hour, because one political party had put up election posters inside the polling stations overnight.

Voting could only begin after the posters had all been removed. Voting was delayed at Swakopmund in western Namibia, where two political parties had emplaced election posters within 500m of the voting locations. No other problems were experienced and voting in the area is taking place at a rapid rate.

A United Nations spokesman said electoral officials had not expected such a massive voter turnout in the first hours. The processing of votes was taking place at a more rapid rate as officials got into the swing of it, he added.

UN To Consider Extending Voting Period

MB0711091189 Johannesburg SAPA in English
0901 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 7 SAPA—Early indications are that Namibia's polling period will have to be extended by one more day, to Sunday this week, as voters began queuing for kilometres at polling stations throughout the country on Tuesday [7 November].

There are 701,000 registered voters in the country against 196 fixed polling stations and 157 mobile units. Simple arithmetic dictates that each polling station must handle 400 voters a day, or one voter in less than two minutes. Early reports from Oshakati said it took three minutes and 10 seconds to process the first vote.

Complicating the rate of voting is that about 60 per cent of the electorate are estimated to be illiterate and that political parties could challenge the validity of voters registration cards which will substantially delay the voting.

A United Nations spokesman, Mr John Lee Truman, said if long queues of voters remained outside polling stations by Saturday [11 November], polling would be extended by another day.

"We will watch the rate of polling in the first few days," and official spokesman, Mr Gerhard Roux, said.

The administrator-general, Mr Louis Pienaar, and the UN special representative, Mr Martti Ahtisaari, would take a decision by Wednesday or Thursday on whether polling should carry on after the planned close on Saturday, Mr Roux added.

Final Election Results Expected 15 Nov

MB0411094589 Johannesburg Domestic Service
in English 0900 GMT 4 Nov 89

[Text] The final results of the South-West African/Namibian elections will probably be announced on Wednesday, 15 November. A spokesman for the administrator general said that counting at voting district centers would begin at 1900 on Monday morning, 13 November.

Although polls would close at 1900 on Saturday evening, 11 November, the Sunday would be needed for tendered ballots to be sent to Windhoek and for ordinary ballots from outlying areas to reach district counting centers. The spokesman said that some of the mobile polling stations were already on their way to the outlying areas.

Election Procedure Reportedly 'Free and Fair'

MB0711094589 Umtata Capital Radio in English
0900 GMT 7 Nov 89

[Report by James Lorimer]

[Text] All polling stations I have seen, the scene is the same: streams of voters hundreds of meters long moving forward at snail's pace. SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] leader Sam Nujoma [words indistinct] community center in Katutura township, avoiding a crush of journalists who were waiting elsewhere. It all seems to be going like clockwork. That's been confirmed by UNTAG's [UN Transition Assistance Group] military commander, General Prem Chand:

[Begin Chand recording] Going very well, as far as I can see. Thank God for that. [end recording]

One DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] official said he was suspicious of the large number of people from out of the area voting at a polling station in a predominantly white suburb. He said he thought the large number of obvious SWAPO supporters was a bid to block other voters [words indistinct] beyond the suspicions of party officials, the polling here seems to be free and fair.

DTA Plane Fired Upon; Makes Emergency Landing

MB0611174789 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1729 GMT 6 Nov 89

[Text] Windhoek Nov 6 SAPA—Unidentified gunmen shot at a Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] aircraft with small arms, forcing it to make an emergency landing at Andara in northern Ovambo on Monday, [6 November], DTA sources said in Windhoek.

A section of the aircraft caught fire when it struck the ground but the two occupants were unhurt, the sources said. Police in Kavango said the aircraft had been broadcasting DTA political messages when it was brought down.

The DTA general secretary, Mr Johan de Waal, told SAPA earlier the aircraft had made an emergency landing but he could not confirm or deny it had been fired on. Sources in Kavango said the tail section had been damaged by fire.

Police were guarding the aircraft, pending an investigation into the incident by civil aviation officials.

Guinea

Army Fires on Mob in Labe 29 October; 6 Killed

AB0311175089 Paris AFP in English 1743 GMT
3 Nov 89

[Text] Conakry, Nov 3 (AFP)—The Army in Guinea killed six civilians in the central town of Labe last Sunday [29 October] as a mob was sacking the local police station, informed sources said here Friday.

They said rioting broke out after police beat an 18-year-old youth to death in the police station and then tried to fake his suicide by hanging.

Soldiers opened fire on the angry crowd after being called in by local authorities.

The youth had been initially handed in to police by an irate motor-cyclist when the youth, throwing stones with a companion, damaged the motorcycle.

The teenager's family had inquiries made, and an autopsy found he had been beaten and tortured to death, the sources said.

Government officials in the capital have remained tight-lipped, but reliable sources said military and administrative leaders from Labe had been summoned to give an account of the incident to Guinea's military president, General Lansana Conte.

Nigeria

* Paper Extols Effectiveness, Virtues of SAP

34000075b Enugu THE STAR in English 21 Sep 89 p 3

[Text] The term "Structural Adjustment Programme" (SAP) has for the past few years cushioned itself prominently in Nigeria's economic and socio-political thought. The expression means different things to different people, but generally, it connotes a resolve to divest our people of illusions of affluence and subject the entire psyche of the system to a baptism of reality.

Predictably, reality in our amorphous circumstances cannot be too comfortable. Our nation had fantasized its greatness even while the parrots of such illusions knew there was no such thing against the background of their hypocrisy and material obsessions. Everything had seemed so grotesque and theatrical.

A basic credit that can never be denied the Babangida administration is the courage of its unpopular decision at the time, to subject the national economy to a scientific modulation that had never before been attempted in the history of Nigerian nationhood.

The practice had always been to follow the libertine breeze or at best manipulate its course, to flatter the greedy and dishonest pecuniary and business ambitions of persons in power, persons at the corridors of power and persons within relational compass of the tin-gods of power.

A significant deviation is noticed with the present government whose primary focus is the permanent socioeconomic welfare of the state rather than the spoils of office. It is also significant that the government is prepared to pursue its economic reconstruction policies even at the risk of temporary unpopularity.

SAP was a bold step. Tortuous, but bold. Though much of the problems emanating from the programme were hardly anticipated in their details, it must be admitted that nobody was deceived as to hardships people have to bear and the sacrifices they have to make towards the taming of the nation's wild and prostitute economy.

It may however be stated that the manner Nigerians have absorbed the shocks of SAP and adjusted to its demands, exhibit nothing but untrammelled patriotism. With the exception of one or so misguided hiccups, everything has been working according to plans and the positive results of the programme are noticed in the similarly positive adjustments in the business, social and domestic lifestyles of our people.

The hitherto thought indispensable items and luxuries imported from the East and the West have been shown to be dispensable or locally made substitutes for them have become available. The fear that we shall all perish from hunger if certain grains of the temperate region were not available to our kitchens, flour mills and breweries have been proved baseless.

On the contrary, the imperatives have impelled the golden age of grain farming in the country. Rice, sorghum, millet, maize, corn, etc., have risen to the challenge, proving that our country could really be self-reliant in food production.

Generally our society is getting more and more sober; our tastes are becoming less and less wayward; our ingenuity is getting more and more activated and our economy is getting increasingly better. Thanks to SAP. We have discovered that it is not in the stars, but in ourselves that we are underling. If nothing goes wrong and we hope nothing does—we can look forward to a better tomorrow.

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DATE FILMED

5 Dec 1989

